

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 06852 031540Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----011137 031543Z /44
O 031450Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 673

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 6852

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, CG, EAID
SUBJECT: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE

REF: A) KINSHASA 6457 B) KINSHASA 6812 C) STATE 167468

1. AS WE REPORTED PARA 1 (C) REF A, QUOTE THE MIDEMA FLOUR MILL NOW HAS SUFFICIENT WHEAT IN THE PIPELINE-THOUGH THE LAST TWO SHIPMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN PAID FOR-TO LAST UNITL MID-AUGUST. END QUOTE. MIDEMA IS STILL OPERATING NEAR CAPACITY. STOCKS AS OF JUNE 30 WERE 2,750 METRIC TONS. THE MASCOT IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE MATADI JULY 7 WITH 9,154 METRIC TONS AND THE SANTIAGO IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE MATADI JULY 14 WITH 8,326 METRIC TONS.

2. LOCAL MIDEMA OFFICE EXPECTS TO RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR ABOVE 2 SHIPS PRESENTLY EN ROUTE IN NEAR FUTURE. THEY HAVE NOT REPEAT HAVE NOT RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO UNLOAD SHIPS IF PAYMENT NOT MADE PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. PROVIDING THESE 2 SHIPS ARE UNLOADED, STOCKS WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO ENABLE MIDEMA TO OPERATE NEAR CAPACITY THROUGH AUGUST.

3. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE SHIPMENTS THE MIDEMA OFFICE REPORTS THAT THE KAVO IS SCHEDULED TO LOAD 9,500 METRIC TONS JULY 5 IN THE U.S. ARRIVAL OF THIS SHIPMENT WILL PROBABLY BE CONTINGENT UPON PAYMENT FOR PREVIOUS COMMERCIAL SHIPMENTS OR SIGNING
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FY78 PL480 PROGRAM.

4. BASED UPON ABOVE INFO, WE STATED IN REF C THAT WHEAT SUPPLIES ARE NOT AS CRITICAL AS SITUATION FOR RICE AND COTTON, AS STOCKS OF BOTH THESE COMMODITIES ARE EXHAUSTED. WE DID NOT MEAN TO IMPLY THAT PL 480 WHEAT IS NOT NEEDED. ITS TIMELY ARRIVAL WILL BE IMPORTANT IF SUPPLY PIPELINE IS TO BE KEPT FULL. HOWEVER

PIPELINE OF WHEAT IS NOT YET EXHAUSTED AS IS PRESENTLY THE CASE OF RICE AND COTTON.

5. WITH REGARD TO REF C PARA 3 (C), GOVERNOR BOFASSA TOLD US (REF B) THAT GOZ EXPECTS TO HAVE FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUDGET ABOUT JULY 4. WE SHALL FOLLOW UP.

6. FYI: RETAIL BREAD PRICES IN KINSHASA AS OF NOW REFLECT NORMAL SITUATION.

END FYI.

CUTLER

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